

A2 5. (Amended) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein said water insoluble block copolymer is a triblock copolymer having the formula ABA, wherein each A is a hydrophobic block, and wherein B is the hydrophilic block.

Please add new claims 63-104 to recite as follows:

63. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein a hydrophobic block comprises one or more polymers selected from the group consisting of a polyester, polyanhydride, polybutyric acid, polyacrylic acid and polymethacrylate.

64. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 63, wherein the one or more polymers is a polyester selected from the group consisting of polylactic acid, polyglycolic acid, and polycaprolactone.

A3 65. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 5, wherein each of said hydrophobic blocks comprises one or more polymers selected from the group consisting of a polyester, polyanhydride, polybutyric acid, polyacrylic acid and polymethacrylate.

66. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 65, wherein the one or more polymers is a polyester selected from the group consisting of polylactic acid, polyglycolic acid, and polycaprolactone.

67. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 5, wherein one or more hydrophobic blocks comprises a poly(α -hydroxy acid).

68. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 67, wherein said poly(α -hydroxy acid) is poly(glycolic acid) or poly(lactic acid).

69. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein said hydrophilic block comprises a polyalkylene oxide.

70. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 69, wherein said polyalkylene oxide is polyethylene glycol.

71. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 5, wherein said hydrophilic block comprises a polyalkylene oxide.

72. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 71, wherein said polyalkylene oxide is polyethylene glycol.

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~~73. (New)~~ The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein said hydrophilic block comprises a polysaccharide.

74. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 66, wherein the hydrophilic block comprises a polyalkylene oxide and the polyester and polyalkylene oxide components of said triblock copolymer are linked by caprolactone links.

75. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 74, wherein said triblock copolymer comprises [poly(DL-lactide-co- ϵ -caprolactone)]-[polyethylene glycol]-[poly(DL-lactide-co- ϵ -caprolactone)].

76. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein said water soluble polymer is polyethylene glycol or methoxypolyethylene glycol.

77. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 5, wherein the water soluble polymer is polyethylene glycol or methoxypolyethylene glycol.

78. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 77, wherein said water soluble polymer is methoxypolyethylene glycol having an average molecular weight of about 100-500.

79. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 78, wherein the triblock copolymer (TB) and said methoxypolyethylene glycol (MePEG) are present in said polymeric drug delivery system at a weight ratio of TB:MePEG within the range of 30:70 to 90:10.

80. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein the weight of said hydrophobic drug represents a percentage of the total weight of said polymeric drug delivery system of 1% or more.

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81. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein the weight of said hydrophobic drug represents a percentage of the total weight of said polymeric drug delivery system within the range of 2-30%.

82. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein said hydrophobic drug is selected from the group consisting of amphotericin, anthralin, beclomethasone, betamethasone, camptothecin, curcumin, dexamethasone, indomethacin, genistein, lidocaine, insulin, nystatin, paclitaxel, tetracycline, tretinoin, cromoglycate, levobunolol, and terbinafine.

83. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 82, wherein said hydrophobic drug is selected from the group consisting of paclitaxel, camptothecin, amphoterecin, nystatin, tretinoin, genistein, and curcumin.

84. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 83, wherein said hydrophobic drug is paclitaxel.

85. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 1, comprising at least two drugs.

86. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 5, wherein the weight of the hydrophobic drug represents a percentage of the total weight of said polymeric drug delivery system of 1% or more.

87. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 5, wherein the weight of the hydrophobic drug represents a percentage of the total weight of said polymeric drug delivery system within the range of 2-30%.

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88. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 5, wherein the hydrophobic drug is selected from the group consisting of amphotericin, anthralin, beclomethasone, betamethasone, camptothecin, curcumin, dexamethasone, indomethacin, genistein, lidocaine, insulin, nystatin, paclitaxel, tetracycline, tretinoin, cromoglycate, levobunolol, and terbinafine.

89. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 88, wherein said hydrophobic drug is selected from the group consisting of paclitaxel, camptothecin, amphoterecin, nystatin, tretinoin, genistein, and curcumin.

90. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 89, wherein said hydrophobic drug is paclitaxel.

91. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 5, comprising at least two drugs.

92. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 71, wherein the average molecular weight of the polyethylene glycol in the triblock copolymer is about 4600.

93. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 92, wherein the water soluble polymer is methoxypolyethylene glycol of an average molecular weight of about 350.

94. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 92, wherein the weight of the hydrophobic drug represents a percentage of the total weight of said polymeric drug delivery system of 1% or more.

95. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 92, wherein the weight of the hydrophobic drug represents a percentage of the total weight of said polymeric drug delivery system within the range of 2-30%.

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96. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 92, wherein the hydrophobic drug is selected from the group consisting of amphotericin, anthralin, beclomethasone, betamethasone, camptothecin, curcumin, dexamethasone, indomethacin, genistein, lidocaine, insulin, nystatin, paclitaxel, tetracycline, tretinoin, cromoglycate, levobunolol, and terbinafine.

97. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 92, wherein the hydrophobic drug is selected from the group consisting of paclitaxel, camptothecin, amphoterecin, nystatin, tretinoin, genistein, and curcumin.

98. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 92, wherein the hydrophobic drug is paclitaxel.

99. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein said water insoluble polymer is a triblock copolymer of the formula ABA, wherein each A is a block of residues comprising residues which remain after polymerization of one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of hydroxyacetic acid, 2-hydroxypropionic acid and 6-

hydroxyhexanoic acid, B is a polyalkylene oxide, and the copolymer is a paste at a temperature within the range of 25-40° C.

100. (New) The polymeric drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein said water insoluble polymer is a triblock copolymer of the formula ABA, wherein each A is a block of residues comprising residues which remain after polymerization of one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of hydroxyacetic acid, 2-hydroxypropionic acid and 6-hydroxyhexanoic acid, B is a polyalkylene oxide, and the copolymer is not a solid at 25° C.

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101. (New) A drug delivery system comprising a drug in combination with a triblock copolymer of the formula ABA, wherein each A is a block of residues comprising residues which remain after polymerization of one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of hydroxyacetic acid, 2-hydroxypropionic acid and 6-hydroxyhexanoic acid, B is polyalkylene oxide, and the copolymer has a consistency, at a temperature within the range of 25-40° C, selected from the group consisting of a paste and a non-solid consistency at 25° C.

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102. (New) The drug delivery system of claim 101, wherein the drug is selected from a peptide, protein, antigen, vaccine, anti-infective, antibiotic, antimicrobial, antiallergenic, steroid, decongestant, miotic, anticholinergic, sympathomimetic, sedative, hypnotic, psychic energizer, tranquilizer, analgesic, antimalarial and antihistamine.

103. (New) The drug delivery system of claim 101, wherein the drug is paclitaxel.

104. (New) The drug delivery system of claim 101, wherein the drug provides 0.1% to 10% of the total weight of the system.